

**From:** Felicity Marsh  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/5/02 8:34pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

The settlement is in the interest of the general public for several reasons:

- 1.The whole dispute has been about political interference at the behest of companies who needed to use politics when they failed in the market place.
- 2.Much of this dispute is an effort to prevent Microsoft's best product coming to market as competitors know the significance of what is taking place and fear they cannot keep up.
- 3.The public is feeling the consequences of this maneuvering of the market and is certainly not benefiting.
- 4.Microsoft has not used its supposed monopoly to hike prices and has kept its products reasonably priced.
- 5.microsoft works with most companies to get their products working well together , it is generally in Microsoft's interest to have many products working well together as that inevitably means more users total.
- 6.Microsoft has given access to education and information and communications that would be out of reach of the vast majority of the public worldwide. It may not have invented all the current technology but it has brought it to market and given the public access at a very reasonable price.
- 7.to have a multi layer system with different companies trying to destroy competitors by preventing the intermixing of products would cause confusion with less savvy computer users, a waste of much money by people buying products that are quickly obsolete, or do not work with some other products , so interrupting the flow of information.
- 8.The economy is in no shape to continue with a dispute which holds up the range of new products which depend on Microsoft's operating system to be of use, the sale of which will help rev up the economy.
9. The Microsoft products are aimed at making life easy for the consumer. It is to the consumers benefit to have features added to the operating system which are easy to access without 'having' to go out and seek other products. More experienced users have plenty of scope for using other products on the operating system, and those other companies are themselves vigorous competitors, some of whom endeavor to cause difficulty in using Microsoft products
10. Microsoft products will obviously fit well together as they are designed

to, and this is good for the many consumers who are not so computer savvy and able to seek other options.

11. Other products such as Real Networks music and video products are easily downloadable and work well for anyone who chooses to use that in preference to Microsoft's products,

In fact many sites including Britain's BBC front page and news uses Real networks as its default media and I have not been able to choose to use Microsoft's media to view BBC videos, so much for choice for the consumer, I see no objection raised to this and similar bias against Microsoft.

12. America generally has gained from Microsoft's vision. it would behoove the economy to not interrupt that vision. it has not seen much of a challenge from within the states and the last thing you want is a foreign challenger taking the lead, as this economy could then lose its world lead as others have in the past when they became complacent or squabbled among themselves!

member of the public    felicity marsh